

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF GERARD AND LILO LEEDS' COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING EDUCATION FOR AMERICA'S YOUTH

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2011*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two people who have dedicated their lives to improving the educational outcomes for our Nation's youth. Gerard and Lilo Leeds are a shining example of two people who are giving something important back to a society that once offered them the opportunity to experience so much success in their own lives.

The Leeds came to the United States in 1939 as refugees from Hitler's Germany. After launching a successful media corporation, Mr. and Mrs. Leeds founded the Institute for Student Achievement—an organization that partners with low-income middle schools and high schools to improve student achievement for at-risk youth. They also created the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc, a coalition of concerned parents and education advocates seeking to reform New York State's school finance system. The Leeds also established the Caroline and Sigmund Schott Foundation—an organization that works on early childhood education and care, gender equity, and education financing issues.

The Leeds continued their philanthropic efforts on behalf of adolescent youth by founding the Alliance for Excellent Education in 2001 and charged it with reducing the nation's high school dropout rate and preparing each secondary school student to graduate ready for success at the college level.

Gerard and Lilo Leeds are recipients of many civic awards, including Socially Responsible Entrepreneurs of the Year, the Long Island Association Humanitarian Award, and Outstanding Philanthropists of the year for the Long Island chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives.

The couple also has been honored by the Urban League of Long Island, the New York State chapter of the NAACP, the New York State United Teachers union, and the American Jewish Committee. They were cited by Newsday in its report on "100 Who Shaped a Century," and were among the ten honorees selected by WCBS-TV for recognition in its annual "Fulfilling the Dream" celebration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Their spirit is filled with humanitarianism, kindness, and commitment to serve others. As displayed by their social ventures, they are fully dedicated to helping disadvantaged youth achieve and exceed expectations. When asked where their sense of responsibility comes from, they said the only thing that allowed them to succeed, especially as immigrants fleeing Germany during World War II, was a quality education. As lifetime learners earning both a bachelors and masters degree,

they believe the same academic experience they received should be the standard—not the exception—for every boy and girl in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Gerard and Lilo Leeds for their tremendous leadership and dedication to helping students across the United States receive a quality education.

HONORING SERGEANT MAJOR HENRY WELFORD JACKSON II'S 33 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2011*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Sergeant Major Henry Welford Jackson II for 33 years of exceptional service to the United States Army. Sergeant Major Jackson plans to retire from active duty on December 3, 2011.

Henry W. Jackson II entered the United States Army on July 5, 1977. His extensive military education and training has allowed him to excel as both a soldier and a teacher. He received an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Park University in Parkville, Missouri and is currently pursuing a Masters in Criminal Justice with Troy University.

Since 2004, Sergeant Major Jackson has served as the Inspector General Sergeant Major with the Office of the Inspector General, where he worked with utmost distinction as the senior enlisted advisor and assistant to the Inspector General, Senior Noncommissioned Officer, and Senior Assistant Inspector General.

His outstanding leadership during his final tour of a distinguished 33-year active duty career exemplifies the highest traditions of service while positively influencing virtually every major aspect of the Army. During this period, Sergeant Major Jackson's record of accomplishments set a standard of excellence in keeping with the proudest traditions of military service. As the principal enlisted advisor, his candid and insightful counsel was essential in informing senior Army leadership on issues impacting the force and representing the Soldier's perspective on these issues.

Within the Agency, he supervised readiness and training of IG offices worldwide for attendance in the Army's premiere training institution—the Inspector General School; and he was instrumental in the selection of senior non-commissioned officers for Inspector General assignments across the Army. He also served as a trusted confidant to the Sergeant Major of the Army, advising him on all aspects of Army and Soldier issues. During his time with the United States Army Inspector General Agency, he personally mentored and inspired over 4,230 officers, non-commissioned offi-

cers, and civilians to graduate from the Inspector General School. He meticulously ensured that Inspectors General across the Army provide only the finest support to the Army's senior leaders, and that those personnel selected to be Army Inspectors General were only soldiers and civilians of the highest caliber. He has continuously trained and mentored Inspector General Personnel across the Army, ensuring they maintain the highest degree of professionalism and expertise in their assignments as Army Inspectors General.

Prior to his current assignment, SGM Jackson served as the Chief Operations Sergeant and the Assistance and Investigations Non-Commissioned Officer for Headquarters, Fifth United States Army at Fort Sam Houston.

SGM Jackson has served in a variety of staff and leadership positions both in the states and overseas. Throughout his military career, he has served in a variety of units such as Airborne, Light & Mechanized Infantry assignments. Additionally, he has served as a Rifleman, Drill Sergeant, Senior Drill Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Operations Sergeant, and as an S-2 Non-Commissioned Officer.

He has honorably been decorated with numerous awards and decorations, all of which are a true testament to his hard work and commitment to making our country a safer, more peaceful place.

I would like to give my utmost sincere thanks to Henry for his 33 years of service. SGM Jackson's decisive leadership and mentorship has left a lasting impression on the thousands of Soldiers he has interacted while in service, helping to develop Army Values and Warrior Ethos within all of them. Throughout his entire career, he has embodied the Noncommissioned Officer Creed and ensured mission accomplishment while always taking care of soldiers. I congratulate Sergeant Major Jackson on the completion of an exemplary active-duty career and wish him and his wife Jennifer well on the next phase of their life.

COMMEMORATING BOBBY THOMSON, A BASEBALL LEGEND AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2011*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Bobby Thomson, a baseball legend and pillar of his community.

Bobby Thomson was born in 1923 in Glasgow, Scotland, the youngest of 6 children and emigrated to the United States with his mother and siblings in 1925 to join his father in Staten Island, New York. He grew up in Staten Island and quickly became a baseball standout both in school athletic leagues and on the city's sandlots. After graduating from high school in 1942, he signed with the New York Giants for \$100 a month.

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